

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT****30 JANUARY 2019**

---

**(U) CALIFORNIA****(U) Los Angeles – Dozens of Victims Rescued and Hundreds Arrested in Human-Trafficking Sting**

(U) Nearly 50 victims of human trafficking, including 14 minors, were rescued during a three-day sting operation across California last week, law enforcement officials announced yesterday. State and federal agencies arrested 339 people, including 156 men on suspicion of solicitation, during the coordinated effort, which involved cyber detectives posing as teenagers. Since its creation in 2015, members of the LA Regional Human Trafficking Task Force have rescued more than 300 victims, 220 of whom were minors. The task force has arrested more than 1,500 people, including about 460 men on suspicion of buying sex and more than 320 suspected pimps.

SOURCE: 29 January 2019, [MSN News](#)

**(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER****(U) Arizona – Toddler Injured in fall from Border Wall**

(U) Yuma – A 3-year-old Guatemalan girl traveling with nearly 50 other illegal immigrants was injured when she plummeted 16 feet from the top of an outdated section of border wall in Arizona. US Customs and Border Protection agents soon descended on the spot, east of the San Luis port of entry, and rendered aid to the toddler who incurred only minor injuries. Agents apprehended 49 people from Guatemala who used a smuggler's ladder to illegally scale the wall. The 3-year-old girl was on the ladder when she fell.

SOURCE: 29 January 2019, [FOX News](#)

**(U) NATIONAL****(U) Ohio – Man Indicted and Accused of Plotting Attack on Synagogue in Support of ISIS**

(U) Toledo – A 21-year-old man was indicted on federal charges yesterday, following his arrest in December 2018 for what federal authorities said was a plan to carry out a mass shooting at a synagogue in the name of ISIS. Damon Joseph is charged with attempting to provide material support to ISIS, attempting to commit a hate crime and possessing firearms in furtherance of a crime of violence. The FBI arrested him in December 2018 after he grabbed a duffel bag with two disabled semi-automatic rifles from the car of an undercover agent. Following his arrest, he detailed his plans for the attack and his intent to cause mass casualties in support of ISIS.

SOURCE: 29 January 2019, [Cleveland](#)

**(U) Puerto Rico – CBP and FURA Seize Cocaine Worth \$10 million inside Abandoned Vessel**

(U) San Juan – US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Border Patrol Agents and the Puerto Rico Police Department (PRPD) Joint Forces for Rapid Action (FURA) task force seized 884 pounds of cocaine found inside an abandoned vessel on the coast of the town of Loiza. The estimated value of the seized narcotics is \$10 million. US Coast Guard and CBP Air and Marine assets located a suspected smuggling vessel traveling south towards the northern coast of Puerto Rico. US Border Patrol Agents responded to the area of Loiza where the vessel had made landfall. The abandoned vessel contained foreign food

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Form # 1168-442e-b407-de1a8c242c14

**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

products indicating that the vessel had arrived from a foreign country.

SOURCE: 29 January 2019, [CBP Press Release](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Egypt – 54 Arrested and Accused of Uprising Anniversary Plots**

(U) Cairo – Egyptian authorities arrested 54 alleged members of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood group who were plotting to foment chaos on the anniversary of Egypt's 2011 Arab Spring uprising. The Interior Ministry said the individuals were arrested over the past few weeks in different locations. It released images of old desktop computer towers and crude weapons like steel caltrops and spiked metal balls, which allegedly belonged to the group. The Muslim Brotherhood won a series of elections after the January 2011 uprising toppled longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak. Mohammed Morsi, a senior Brotherhood member, was elected president in 2012 but was overthrown by the military the following year amid mass protests against his rule. Authorities have since waged a sweeping crackdown on the group, now branded a terrorist organization.

SOURCE: 29 January 2019, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) France – French to Take Back ISIS Fighters**

(U) Paris – About 130 French citizens who fought in the ranks of the ISIS will be returned to France by their Syrian captors. The men are being held in northeast Syria by Kurdish forces who do not wish to keep them, especially now that their US backers are withdrawing from the country. French Interior Minister Christophe Castaner would not confirm the details of the report, but said any returnees would be subject to due process. French prisons currently hold about 500 men who have traveled overseas to join various Islamic extremist groups.

SOURCE: 29 January 2019, [Bloomberg](#)

**(U) Germany – Three Iraqi Refugees Arrested for Attack Plot**

(U) Dithmarschen – German authorities arrested three Iraqi refugees today, on allegations they were planning an extremist bombing attack, and searched properties in three states in connection with their investigation. Federal prosecutors said Shahin F. and Hersh F., both 23, and Rauf S., 36, were taken into custody in an early morning raid by a police SWAT team in the area near the border with Denmark. The suspects, who had refugee status in Germany, had been under surveillance for some time by a task force of around 200 investigators.

SOURCE: 30 January 2019, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) Spain – Bust on Drug Smuggling Ring that used Drones to Spy**

(U) Chilpancingo – Spanish police have cracked down on a drug smuggling ring that was using drones to spy on law enforcement and make sure the coast was clear while they conducted their illicit business. Officers arrested 12 members of the ring, all Spanish nationals, who they attribute with trafficking over six tons of hashish into the country over the last few months, worth about \$5.7 million. Police discovered a drone, radio frequency inhibitor and several smartphones during their raid, and deemed that the ten men and two women associated with the operation were using the technology to monitor the coast of the southern town where they were arrested.

SOURCE: 29 January 2019, [FOX News](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

*Warning: This document is the exclusive property of the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code Sec. 6250-6270). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with STAC policy relating to U//FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized STAC official. No portion of this report should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form.*

*This document contains excerpts of suspicious activities and incidents of interest to the STAC as obtained from open and unclassified sources.*